

regional while nuclear weapons are global and the nuclear question is global in its nature and impact - that proposal will not be really workable.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:** Mr. speaker, Sir, since the hon. Minister is fresh from his SAARC visit, I would like to know what are the concrete results of the various diplomatic, political and, of course, economic initiatives which he has taken that we got precisely three votes in the United Nations and our traditional friends Soviet Union, Ukraine and Byelorussia also voted against us as proposal put forward at the Pakistan's initiative was passed by the United Nations General Assembly by 103:3 votes. Does this Government consider this as the achievement and does this Government consider that Pakistan will not supply arms and not extend other facilities to the terrorists in Punjab and Kashmir? I would also like to know what has happened during the talk which the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister had with their new-found common patron, the State Department of the Government of America.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** Sir, my illustrious predecessor is obviously speaking about the Soviet vote, particularly on the question of Pakistani proposal.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:** It is 103:3.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** Yes, of course. They were there during my colleague's time and others' time also. Now, Sir, what it shows is that they are for nuclear disarmament and they see regional arrangements, perhaps in their own perception, as ~~won: while~~.... (Interruptions)

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH:** We are not lovers of such a strange choice of words, Sir. The Government of India has expressed its anguish. This is no way to express discontent to a foreign country.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** However, Sir, the point is that the Soviet Union, as far as the Kashmir question is concerned - as

distinguished from nuclear disarmament which is a broader question swears by the Shimla Agreement - this is the October position which is the latest - and feels that it must be solved bilaterally and peacefully.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** That is precisely what I was referring to as an achievement of our diplomatic efforts. More and more countries are actually coming around and have come around to this position.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:** Sir, I will ask a very small question. I think that China is also an important factor in the relationship between India and Pakistan. I am straight away asking the hon. Minister, whether the Government will use the opportunity of the visit of Chinese Premier to India and take up this issue bilaterally so that some moral or diplomatic pressure is put on Pakistan?

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** We have noted your suggestion for action and we will consider it.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(English)

### Setting up of an Oil Refinery in Orissa

\*101. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:**  
**DR. KARTIKESHWAR PATRA:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought any foreign collaboration for setting up an Oil Refinery in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the place where this refinery is likely to be set up?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Postponement of Sixth SAARC Summit**

\*106. **SHRICE.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:**  
**SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL:**

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sixth SAARC Summit scheduled to take place at Colombo had to be postponed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the alternate date fixed for the Summit;

(d) whether India was consulted before the postponement;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Sri Lanka held India responsible for the postponement of the said summit;

(g) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(h) whether the postponement of the Summit is likely to affect the regional balance in South Asia?

**THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):** (a) to (h). The Sixth SAARC Summit was scheduled to be held at Colombo on November 7 to 9. However, on November 1, Member states were informed that the king of Bhutan would be unable to attend the said Summit on account of unforeseen problems.

The President of the Maldives in his capacity as Chairman of SAARC, carried out consultations with other Heads of State/Heads of Government on this Summit. After giving careful thought to the views expressed to him by Heads of State/Government, he

came to the conclusion on November 6 that the Sixth Summit could not be held on schedule as Bhutan would not be represented at the Head of State or Government level. At the same time, he expressed the hope that after further consultations in the near future, the Heads of State/Government of the SAARC Member States may be able to agree on fresh dates for the Sixth SAARC Summit.

Following this advice, President Gayoom has already initiated consultations with Heads of State/Government on the possibility of convening a short, functional Summit in Colombo, preferably during the current calendar year. For this purpose, he sent his Foreign Minister, Mr. Fathulla Jameel, to India from 19 to 21 November as his Special Envoy to consult with EAM and PM on this question. We conveyed to him our hope that it would be possible to hold a Summit Meeting on the kind proposed during the year.

India's view as conveyed to the SAARC Chairman, President Gayoom, on the possibility as convening the Summit in the absence of one of the Heads of State or Government was that this would not conform to propriety or principle.

We have seen the statement made on November 12 by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, Mr. Harold Herat. It is not our intention to comment in any detail on the statement since we would not wish to add to the element of acrimony which has been needlessly injected into SAARC affairs. We should prefer to let the facts speak for themselves.

The postponement of the Summit is not likely to affect the regional balance in South Asia.

[Translation]

**Oil and Natural Gas Reserves in Bihar**

\*107. **SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR:** Will the Minister of